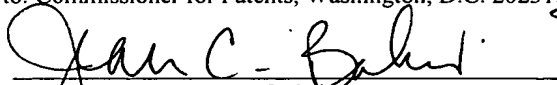


#6/A AD- 2-8-02
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date set forth below in an Express Mail envelope, Label No. EL743811362US addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date of Signature and Deposit: September 27, 2001


Jean C. Baker

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Rui Sousa, et al.

Date: September 27, 2001

Serial No.: --

Group Art Unit: --

Filed: Herewith

Examiner: --

Title: METHODS FOR USING MUTANT
RNA POLYMERASES WITH REDUCED
DISCRIMINATION BETWEEN
CANONICAL AND CANONICAL
NUCLEOSIDE TRIPHOSPHATES

File No.: 310307.90061

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner For Patents
Washington DC 20231

Dear Sir:

In conjunction with filing the enclosed continuation application, please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification:

On Page 1, below the title and above the subtitle "Field of Invention," please insert the following subsection:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

A1
This application is a continuation application of 09/643,189, filed on August 21, 2000, which is a continuation of 09/100,803, filed on June 19, 1998, U.S. Patent No. 6,107,037, which is a division of 08/713,331, filed on September 13, 1996, U.S. Patent No. 5,849,546. *now abandoned,*

Please delete Pages 59 and 60 and insert the enclosed paper copy of the sequence listing to the end of the application (after the ABSTRACT).